

Why Is The Fat Cat" Ed Fritz of The NAB" shedding tears!!!

Low Power FM Broadcasting

LPFM Notice of Proposed Rulemaking FCC Community Broadcast Service, For Woman, Blacks, and Minorities! Pass LPFM Approve It.

MM Docket 99-25

Dear Honorable Senators and Congressman:
Dear Honorable Chairman Kennard FCC:

"CLEAN MONEY, CLEAN ELECTIONS ACT" RE-INTRODUCED
IN CONGRESS:

Public Campaign Joined by a Broad, Diverse Group In Support of
the Bills

WASHINGTON Illustrating the breadth of support for far-reaching
campaign

finance reform, leaders from all different political
persuasions and associations

joined with Public Campaign in supporting the "Clean Money,
Clean Elections" bills

introduced today in the U.S. Senate and the U.S. House of
Representatives. The

Senate bill is co-sponsored by Sens. Paul Wellstone (D-MN) and
John Kerry

(D-MA). The House bill is sponsored by Rep. John Tierney
(D-MA).

The "Clean Money, Clean Elections" bills would provide
candidates who voluntarily

forego private contributions and agree to strict spending
limits with fixed and equal

financing from a publicly-financed clean elections fund.
Similar legislation has been

enacted through ballot initiatives in Arizona, Maine, and
Massachusetts; Vermont

passed it through the state legislature.

"It is a testament to the urgent need to take big money out of
our politics that such

a diverse group joins us today in supporting the Clean
Elections bills," said Public

Campaign Executive Director Ellen Miller. "Lawmakers here in
Washington, as well

as legislators out in the states, should take notice of what
this group is saying -- the

kind of comprehensive reform embodied in the 'Clean Money,
Clean Elections' bills

is the ultimate goal, and nothing short of it is acceptable."

In addition to Members of Congress, leaders from across the
spectrum voiced their

support for "Clean Money, Clean Elections." Joining Public Campaign in supporting the legislation are: Antonia Hernandez, executive director of the Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund; Carl Pope, president of the Sierra Club; conservative political analyst Arianna Huffington; former Republican Member of Congress, 1980 presidential candidate, and co-chair of Public Campaign's National Advisory Board John Anderson; and Rabbi David Saperstein of the Religious Action Center.

"Today's campaign finance system is a threat to America's democratic values of fairness and equality. Special-interest money carries too much weight, at a tremendous cost to ordinary taxpayers," said John Anderson.

"We need an election process that decreases the role of money in politics, and increases public participation and trust in politics," added Carl Pope. "Only then, through decreasing politicians' dependence on campaign contributors and focusing on publicly-financed elections, can we improve the long-term, best interests of the entire nation."

Clean Money holds the greatest promise for making issues and ideas -- not money -- the determining factor in who can run and compete for office. Moreover, Clean Money has attracted many supporters because it will allow certain constituencies, which have traditionally been disenfranchised because of the money chase, to more fully participate in America's democratic system.

"Our current system of financing political campaigns excludes many people, including Latinos, from fully participating in the political process because they do not have vast financial resources," said Antonia Hernandez. "Clean Money Campaign Reform will help to change this, and enhance democracy for all of us."

"From churches and synagogues across the nation, we hear that campaign finance reform is not an esoteric technical issue of election regulations but one that goes to the essence of the ethical and moral life of our nation," Rabbi David Saperstein said in agreement. "'Clean Money, Clean Elections' is a real solution to the ethical

challenges of today's campaign finance system."

While the chances of Congress passing truly comprehensive reforms in the near future are dim, supporters of the Clean Money-style reforms are buoyed by the grassroots action in the states. Four states passed Clean Money reform, and organizations in another 40-plus states are working towards passage, either by ballot initiative or through the legislature.

"The 'Clean Money, Clean Elections' Act is a much-needed response to the takeover of our political system by special interests that are not only driving Mack trucks through the loopholes in the existing laws, but determining much of our national agenda," said Arianna Huffington.

The sponsors of the bills in Congress echoed the sentiments of the broad group supporting their efforts.

"Too many Americans believe that a small but wealthy and powerful elite controls the levers of government through a political process which rewards big donors -- a system in which you have to pay to play," said Sen. Wellstone. "Why do you think corporate welfare has barely been nicked, but welfare for the poor and needy in this country has been gutted? The not-so-invisible hand of corporate PACs and well-heeled lobbyists, and huge corporate soft money contributions can be seen most openly here."

"The ability of vested interests to overwhelm the broader public interest through the current campaign finance system underscores the compelling need for comprehensive reform," added Rep. Tierney. "That's what the 'Clean Money, Clean Elections' bill offers and I am proud to be its chief sponsor in the House."

Public Campaign is a non-profit, non-partisan organization working on behalf of comprehensive campaign finance reform.

Date: 5/14/99
From: Mr. Joseph D'Alessandro
94 Angola Estates
Lewes, Delaware 19958
302-945-1554

Subject:Member # 8512 7568 1596 4858 ACLU